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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re the Application of: **TANAKA, Yoshihiro**

Group Art Unit: 3633

Serial No.: **10/588,499**

Examiner: **HERRING, Brent W.**

Filed: **August 4, 2006**

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 9219

For: **SHEARING FORCE REINFORCED STRUCTURE AND MEMBER**

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

August 5, 2009

Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment is being filed concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination in response to the Final Office Action dated April 10, 2009, extended from July 10, 2009 to August 10, 2009 by a one-month Petition for Extension of Time. Prior to further examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 11 of this paper.